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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/781,271

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Bjoern Goerke

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EXAMINER

STEVENS, ROBERT

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2162

DATE MAILED: 07/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/781,271

Applicant(s)

GOERKE ET AL.

Examiner

Robert Stevens

Art Unit

2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2. **Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101** because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

To be statutory, a claimed computer-related process must either: (A) result in a physical transformation outside the computer for which a practical application is either disclosed in the specification or would have been known to a skilled artisan, or (B) be limited to a practical application with useful, concrete and tangible result.

Regarding independent claims 1 and 16: In the preamble, these claims recite a computer program product embodied in an information carrier. Current Office policy is that an information carrier is not considered a tangible embodiment. One way to correct the claim language is to recite the storage of the claimed subject matter on a computer readable medium.

Claims 1 and 16, and other claims that depend on them, are not patent eligible because the invention recited therein is not tangibly incorporated in a computer readable medium.

Regarding independent claim 25: The claim recites storage of a visual interface, comprised of views, a layout and links. This claim does not produce a useful result, such as a conveyance of results to a user.

Claim 25 and other claims that depend on it are not patent eligible because the invention recited therein does not produce a useful, concrete and tangible result.

Independent claims 28 and 29 are substantially similar to claim 25, and are therefore likewise rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. **Regarding claims 1, 25 and 28-29:** The term "potential" in claims 1, 25, 28 and 29 is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "potential" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

Claims 2-15 and 26-27 are dependent upon claims 1 and 15, respectively, and are therefore likewise rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. **Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)** as being unpatentable over Inanoria (US Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0046789, provisionally filed Aug. 23, 2002 and published Mar. 11, 2004, hereafter referred to as "Inanoria") in view of Pena et al. (US Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0225829, provisionally filed May 22, 2002 and published Dec. 4, 2003, hereafter referred to as "Pena").

Regarding independent claim 1: Inanoria discloses

A computer program product, tangibly embodied in an information carrier, the computer program product comprising instructions operable to cause data processing apparatus to receive user input specifying a view composition, the view composition comprising a set of views, each view in the set of views comprising a layout of one or more user interface elements selected from a set of user interface elements, (See paragraphs [0124] – [0126] in the context of [0145] in

Inanoria, discussing a Layout Manager using templates for providing GUI layouts, and Figure 8, showing an exemplary layout).

and store the view composition in a repository. (See [0099] in Inanoria, discussing the calling of the appropriate template, it being implied that the template is being called from storage)

However, Inanoria does not explicitly disclose navigation links. Pena, though, discloses: **the view composition further comprising a layout of the views and at least one navigation link, each navigation link specifying a potential transition from a first view in the set of views to a second view in the set of views;** (See paragraph [0095] in the context of [0099] in Pena, discussing the use of a link for action transitions among page views.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Pena for the benefit of Inanoria, because to do so allowed a system designer to implement a platform- and language-independent content delivery system and method, as taught by Pena in the Abstract. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e., the management of graphical user interfaces.

Regarding claim 2: Inanoria teaches multiple user interface elements, view user elements and container elements. (See Figure 3, showing multiple buttons and

multiple windows, and paragraph [0075], discussing grouping and nesting of containers.)

Regarding claim 3: Inanoria teaches manipulating property settings. (See paragraph [0065].)

Regarding claim 4: Inanoria does not explicitly teach this limitation. However, Pena teaches using a navigation link to exit one page and enter another. (See paragraph [0095].)

Regarding claim 5: Inanoria does not explicitly teach this limitation. However, Pena teaches using events to trigger navigation links and event handlers. (See paragraph [0062], discussing IDML Actions processing.)

Regarding claim 6: Inanoria teaches using pre-defined layouts. (See paragraph [0124], discussing master templates and a plurality of templates for each supported layout.)

Regarding claim 7: Inanoria teaches nesting of views. (See paragraphs [0075] – [0076], discussing grouping and nesting of GUI components in a container.)

Regarding claims 8-9: Inanoria teaches view association. (See Figure 8, showing the result of an association of views and view containers in an enclosing view.) Inanoria further teaches the use of pre-defined layouts. (See paragraph [0124].)

Regarding claims 10-11: Inanoria teaches view association. (See Figure 8, showing the result of an association of views and view containers in an enclosing view.) Inanoria further teaches the use of pre-defined layouts. (See paragraph [0124]. The specific view designated as a default was also an obvious variant to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention.)

Regarding claims 12-13: Inanoria teaches the use of reusable components. (See paragraph [0011], discussing the use of reusable and extendible content objects. Reuse of software components, including coded classes and objects, was well-known and whether to employ such a strategy was also an obvious variant to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention.)

Regarding claim 14: Inanoria teaches the use of user GUI controls. (See Figure 10A – 10D, showing an editor GUI, and Figure 1, noting the client browser transmission of the HTTP request [element #1].)

Regarding claim 15: Inanoria teaches the use and storage of XML view compositions. (See paragraphs [0099] and [0102], discussing the use of XSL

templates, which are written in XML, and paragraph [0103] discussing the “importing” of an XSL file, it having been implicit that such a file must have first been stored in order to have been later imported.)

Regarding independent claim 16: Inanoria discloses

A computer program product, tangibly embodied in an information carrier, the computer program product comprising instructions operable to cause data processing apparatus to: generate a user interface comprising a layout of one or more views from a set a views, the layout and the set of views being specified in a view composition, each view in the set of views comprising a layout of one or more user interface elements selected from a set of user interface elements; (See paragraphs [0124] – [0126] in the context of [0145] in Inanoria, discussing a Layout Manager using templates for providing GUI layouts, and Figure 8, showing an exemplary layout).

However, Inanoria does not explicitly disclose navigation links. Pena, though, discloses: **modify the user interface based on at least one navigation link specified in the view composition, wherein each navigation link associates a first view in the set of views with a second view in the set of views.** (See paragraph [0095] in the context of [0099] in Pena, discussing the use of a link for action transitions among page views.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Pena for the benefit of Inanoria, because to do so allowed a system designer to implement a platform- and language-independent content delivery system and method, as taught by Pena in the Abstract. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e., the management of graphical user interfaces.

Regarding claims 17-18: Inanoria teaches the invoking of event handlers. (See paragraph [0176], discussing event processing by the Event Manager and event propagation among containers.) However, Inanoria does not explicitly teach displaying a second view. Pena, though, teaches action transitions between page views. (See paragraph [0095].)

Regarding claim 19: Inanoria teaches nesting of views to effect a layout. (See paragraphs [0075] – [0076], discussing grouping of GUI components in a container.) Inanoria further teaches the displaying of the view, which was specified by the layout. (See paragraph [0077], discussing the processing performed by a Layout Manager. The specific layout implemented was an obvious variant to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention.)

Regarding claims 20-21: Inanoria teaches nesting of views to effect a layout. (See paragraphs [0075] – [0076], discussing grouping of GUI components in a container.) Inanoria further teaches the displaying of the view, which was specified by the layout. (See paragraph [0077], discussing the processing performed by a Layout Manager.)

Regarding claim 22: Inanoria teaches modifying a view composition. (See paragraphs [0075] and [0077], discussing the use of object oriented programming of containers and affecting the visual attributes of hierarchically structured containers.)

Regarding claim 23: Inanoria does not explicitly teach this limitation. However, Pena teaches using a navigation link to move among page views. (See paragraph [0095] in the context of [0099], discussing the use of a link for action transitions among page views.)

Regarding claim 24: Inanoria teaches the use of reusable components. (See paragraph [0011], discussing the use of reusable and extendible content objects. Reuse of software components, including coded classes and objects, was well-known and whether to employ such a strategy, and the number of reusable components used, was an obvious variant to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention.)

Regarding independent claim 25: Inanoria discloses

A computer readable medium having stored thereon a design time representation of a visual interface for a computer program, the design time representation of the visual interface comprising: a set of views, each view in the set of views comprising a layout of one or more user interface elements selected from a set of user interface elements; (See paragraphs [0124] – [0126] in the context of [0145] in Inanoria, discussing a Layout Manager using templates for providing GUI component layouts), **and a layout of the views;** (See paragraphs [0076] - [0077] in Inanoria, discussing a Layout Manager and positioning of GUI components, and Figure 8, showing an exemplary layout).

However, Inanoria does not explicitly disclose navigation links. Pena, though, discloses: **at least one navigation link, each navigation link specifying a potential transition from a first view in the set of views to a second view in the set of views.** (See paragraph [0095] in the context of [0099] in Pena, discussing the use of a link for action transitions among page views.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to apply the teachings of Pena for the benefit of Inanoria, because to do so allowed a system designer to implement a platform- and language-independent content delivery system and method, as taught by Pena in the Abstract. These references were all applicable to the same field of endeavor, i.e., the management of graphical user interfaces.

Regarding claim 26: Inanoria teaches displaying view areas, associating two or more views, and the use of default views. (See Figure 8, showing the result of an association of views and view containers in an enclosing view. The specific layout or view one implemented and/or declared as a default was an obvious variant to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention. It was implicit that if displayed, the view must have been previously specified.)

Claim 27 is substantially similar to claim 7, and therefore likewise rejected.

Independent claims 28-29 are respectively directed to a method and an apparatus for implementing computer product claim 1. As such, these claims are substantially similar to claim 1, and therefore likewise rejected.

Independent claims 30-31 are respectively directed to a method and an apparatus for implementing computer product claim 16. As such, these claims are substantially similar to claim 16, and therefore likewise rejected.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Non-patent Literature

Burbeck, Steve, "Applications Programming in Smalltalk-80: How to Use Model-View-Controller", downloaded from: st-www.cs.uiuc.edu/users/smarch/st-docs/mvc.html, © 1997, pp. 1-11.

Binding, Carl, "The Architecture of a User Interface Toolkit", ACM 0-89791-283-7, © 1998, pp. 56-65.

Suthers, Daniel D., "Architectures for Compute Supported Collaborative Learning", IEEE 0-7695-1013-2/01, © 2001, pp. 25-28.

Veit, Matthias, et al., "Model-View-Controller and Object Teams: A Perfect Match of Paradigms", AOSD 2003, Boston, MA, March 2003, pp. 140-149 (plus citation page).

GuangChun, Luo, et al., "A Novel Web Application Frame Developed by MVC", ACM SIGSOFT, Software Engineering Notes, Vol. 28, No. 2, March 2003, pp. 1-3.

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Taylor	7,017,145
Lucassen et al	6,996,800
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Bahrs et al	6,782,508
Orton et al	5,615,326
Palevich	5,652,884

Art Unit: 2162

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert Stevens whose telephone number is (571) 272-4102. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 6:00 - 2:30.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Robert Stevens
Examiner
Art Unit 2162

July 20, 2006



SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER